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Governor's directives lack initiative or muscle

LANSING – Sen. Nancy Cassis today agreed the state should try to use Michigan-based companies in its contracts if it will help Michigan workers, but said the governor's grandstanding through executive directives doesn't help anyone.

"I don't support outsourcing, and we all are concerned about the loss of jobs in Michigan," said Cassis, R-Novi "But restating Michigan law just to sound like you're taking action is as effective as trying to catch an elephant with a butterfly net."

Executive Directive 2004-3 gives preferences to Michigan-based companies for state contracts, a provision that already exists in state law.

The issue of protecting and promoting job opportunities in Michigan is the focus of the Senate Republicans JOBS program. JOBS – Job Opportunities for Business Success – is a broad based action plan to provide more jobs for Michigan residents.

"The need to keep jobs in Michigan and attracting more jobs never leaves the front burner in the Senate," Cassis said. "Republicans have been fighting for every Michigan job, and the governor is welcome to join that fight. We will be sending more JOBS and JOBS II legislation to the governor soon. I hope that she won't veto those bills as she did some other job-creation measures."

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